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15 (72) Inventor: Shoichi Iwai

c/o Shinko Denki Kogyo K.K., No. 711, Aza Shariden, Oaza Kurita,
Nagano-shi, Nagano-ken

(72) Inventor: Takashi Kurihara

20 c/o Shinko Denki Kogyo K.K., No. 711, Aza Shariden, Oaza Kurita,
Nagano-shi, Nagano-ken

(72) Inventor: Shigeji Muramatsu

c/o Shinko Denki Kogyo K.K., No. 711, Aza Shariden, Oaza Kurita,
Nagano-shi, Nagano-ken

(71) Applicant for patent: Shiko Denki Kygyo K.K.

25 No. 711, Aza Shariden, Oaza Krita, Nagano-shi, Nagano-ken

(74) Representative: Takao Watanuki, patent attorney and one
other

SPECIFICATION

30 1. Title of the Invention: Stained ceramic

2. Scope of Claim for Patent;

1. A stained ceramic formed by adding a coloring agent

obtained by calcining a mixture of chromium oxide and iron oxide to a ceramic composition and firing the resultant blend.

2. A stained ceramic according to claim 1, wherein said ceramic composition is a glass-alumina complex type
5 composition capable of being fired at a temperature of not more than 1000°C.

3. A stained ceramic according to claim 1, wherein said ceramic composition is a cordierite type composition capable of being fired at a temperature of not more than 1000°C.

10 4. A stained ceramic according to claim 2, wherein said ceramic composition is a β -spondumene type composition capable of being fired at a temperature of not more than 1000°C.

3. Detailed Description of the Invention:

(Field of Utilization in Industry)

15 This invention relates to a stained ceramic for use in an electronic part package for accommodating a semiconductor element, for example.

(Background Art)

Ceramic packages are finding utility as electronic part
20 packages for mounting semiconductor elements, for example.

These ceramic packages are required to possess a high insulating property and manifest imperviousness to intercept the ultraviolet light, for example.

In the ceramic packages of the type having a circuit
25 wiring pattern formed with such a metal as gold, silver, or copper which excels in electric conductivity, a ceramic capable of being fired at a temperature of not more than 1000°C is used lest the circuit wiring pattern be damaged by the heating during the course of firing treatment. This ceramic
30 has glass contained in a ceramic composition in advance of being fired. Since the glass is deficient in imperviousness to light, it is particularly required to be vested with the

imperviousness to light.

Heretofore, for the purpose of imparting the imperviousness to light to the ceramic, a stained ceramic has been obtained by adding a coloring agent to a ceramic
5 composition and firing the composition incorporating the added coloring agent.

This coloring agent uses the oxide of a metal for the purpose of securing the insulating property. For example, iron oxide is used for the red color type, chromium oxide
10 for the green color type, and cobalt oxide for the blue type.
(Problem to be solved by the invention)

Incidentally, however, no proper coloring agent has been heretofore available for the black type that excels all the other types in the imperviousness to light.

15 For the impartation of the black color, the idea of using a coloring agent formed by mixing red and green, namely iron oxide and chromium oxide, or a plurality of metal oxides is conceivable.

While the sole use of a metal oxide poses no problem,
20 the coloring agent formed by mixing a plurality of metal oxides entail such problems as inducing a reaction, when a ceramic composition and coloring agents added thereto are fired together, between the coloring agents or between the coloring agents and the ceramic composition, preventing the produced
25 ceramic from acquiring a color tone aimed at, and disrupting the expected production of a dense ceramic.

This invention has been initiated in the hope of eliminating the problems mentioned above and is aimed at providing a stained ceramic of a black color which excels
30 in imperviousness to light and in density of texture.

(Outline of the Invention)

This invention is furnished with the following

construction for the purpose of fulfilling the object mentioned above.

The stained ceramic contemplated by this invention is characterized by relying on a procedure which comprises
5 preparing a coloring agent formed by calcining a mixture of chromium oxide and iron oxide and adding this coloring agent to a ceramic composition.

The coloring agent which is incorporated in the stained ceramic of this invention is formed by calcining the mixture
10 of chromium oxide and iron oxide.

The term "calcining" as used herein refers to the main firing operation that is performed after the addition of the coloring agent to the ceramic composition and means preliminarily heating the coloring agent.

15 The state to be assumed by the mixture of chromium oxide and iron oxide after the calcination remains has not been definitely elucidated but is thought to be in the form of a stable composition of a certain type. Specifically, the two oxides induce a chemical reaction of a certain type
20 therebetween. What is important in this respect is the fact that since the reaction is completed by the calcination, the oxides after the calcination remain intact without inducing a new reaction at least at a temperature lower than the temperature of calcination.

25 The mixing ratio of chromium oxide and iron oxide does not need to be particularly limited. For the purpose of obtaining a black ceramic, it is proper in the range of 2 : 1 - 1 : 2 by weight. Within this range of weight ratio, the produced ceramic assumes an increasingly black color in
30 proportion as the amount of chromium oxide grows and an increasingly brownish black color in proportion as the amount of iron oxide grows.

The ceramic composition is formed of a glass-alumina complex type composition and is suitable for a low temperature firing grade ceramic which fired at a temperature of not more than 1000°C.

5 In this case, since the coloring agent is a metal oxide, the ceramic resulting from the firing acquires a high insulating property infallibly and excels in the imperviousness to light because it is stained in a black color.

Some of other low temperature firing grade ceramics use
10 a cordierite type composition or a β -spondumene type composition.

Incidentally, the stained ceramic can be applied as advantageously to a high temperature firing grade ceramic like alumina ceramic as to the low temperature firing grade
15 ceramic.

The coloring agent, while the ceramic is fired, is so stable thermally as to avoid being induced by heating to react with the ceramic composition. Thus, the firing is enabled to produce a stained ceramic enjoying high density of texture
20 and high quality.

The calcination of the mixture of chromium oxide and iron oxide is carried out in an open air or in an oxidizing atmosphere. In the atmosphere of this kind, therefore, the chromium oxide and the iron oxide are fated to react.

25 Generally, the firing of the ceramic composition is performed in a weakly oxidizing atmosphere or in a neutral atmosphere such as, for example, an atmosphere of nitrogen gas. By having the mixture of chromium oxide and iron oxide calcined in advance in an atmosphere approximating closely
30 to the firing atmosphere for the ceramic composition and at a temperature higher than the firing temperature as well, it is made possible to keep the calcined coloring agent from

inducing a reaction further when the ceramic composition having incorporated the calcined coloring agent is fired.

The firing of the ceramic composition is performed in an atmosphere of nitrogen gas. The firing reaction proceeds
5 more moderately in the atmosphere of nitrogen gas than in the air. When the mixture of chromium oxide and iron oxide is calcined in advance in the air which may well be regarded as forming a rather harsher environment, the calcined coloring agent is stable and is incapable of being induced to react
10 further even at the time that the ceramic composition incorporating the coloring agent is fired in the atmosphere of nitrogen gas.

Now, working examples of this invention will be cited below for illustration.

15 (Embodiment)

Example 1

A coloring agent was obtained by mixing powdery chromium oxide (Cr_2O_3) and iron oxide (Fe_2O_3) at a weight ratio of 1 : 1 and calcining the resultant mixed powder in an open air
20 at 1200°C for about one hour.

A black dense ceramic was obtained when this coloring agent was added in an amount of 0.5 - 10 wt percent to a low temperature firing grade ceramic composition formed by mixing an organic binder, for example, to a mixed powder formed of
25 borosilicate glass and alumina powder and the resultant blend was fired at a temperature in the range of $850 - 1000^\circ\text{C}$.

Example 2

A coloring agent was obtained by mixing chromium oxide and iron oxide at a weight ratio of 2 : 1 and calcining the
30 resultant mixed powder in an open air at 1200°C for about one hour.

A black dense ceramic was obtained by adding this coloring

agent in an amount in the range of 0.5 - 10 wt % to the same ceramic composition as used in example 1 and firing the resultant mixture at a temperature in the range of 850 - 1000°C.

This ceramic excelled that of Example 1 in the degree
5 of blackness.

Example 3

A coloring agent was obtained by mixing chromium oxide and iron oxide at a weight ratio of 1 : 2 and calcining the resultant mixed powder in an open air at 1200°C for about one
10 hour.

A black dense ceramic was obtained by adding this coloring agent in an amount in the range of 0.5 - 10 wt % to the same ceramic composition as used in example 1 and firing the resultant mixture at a temperature in the range of 850 - 1000°C.

15 This ceramic assumed a slightly more brownish black color than the ceramic obtained in Example 1.

Example 4

A black ceramic of a dense texture was obtained by adding the coloring agent obtained by the same calcination as in
20 Example 1 in an amount in the range of 0.5 - 10 wt % to a cordierite type composition and firing the produced mixture at a temperature in the range of 850 - 1000°C.

Example 5

A black ceramic of a dense texture was obtained by adding
25 the coloring agent obtained by the same calcination as in Example 1 in an amount in the range of 0.5 - 10 wt % to a β-spondumene type composition and firing the produced mixture at a temperature in the range of 850 - 1000°C.

Example 6

30 A similarly black alumina ceramic of a dense texture was obtained by adding the coloring agent obtained by the same calcination as in Example 1 in an amount in the range

of 0.5 - 10 wt % to the alumina ceramic composition formed of alumina powder and an organic binder and firing the resultant blend at about 1600°C.

This invention has been described from various angles
5 with reference to preferred working examples adduced for reference. Naturally, this invention is not limited to these working examples but may be modified numerously without departing from the spirit of this invention.

(Effect of the Invention)

10 According to this invention, it is made possible to obtain a stained ceramic having a black color, excelling in imperviousness to light, and enjoying a dense texture as demonstrated above.

Since the stained ceramic permits effective application
15 to the ceramic containing a component of ceramic composition and excels in imperviousness to light, it can be utilized as in electronic part packages.

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④発明の名称 着色セラミック

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⑦発明者 岩井 昇一 長野県長野市大字栗田字舍利田711番地 新光電気工業株式会社内

⑧発明者 栗原 孝 長野県長野市大字栗田字舍利田711番地 新光電気工業株式会社内

⑨発明者 村松 茂次 長野県長野市大字栗田字舍利田711番地 新光電気工業株式会社内

⑩出願人 新光電気工業株式会社 長野県長野市大字栗田字舍利田711番地

⑪代理人 弁理士 綿貫 隆夫 外1名

明細書

1. 発明の名称 着色セラミック

2. 特許請求の範囲

1. セラミック組成物に、酸化クロムと酸化鉄の混合物を仮焼して得た着色剤を添加して焼成して成る着色セラミック。

2. セラミック組成物が、1000℃以下の温度で焼成が可能なガラス-アルミニウム複合系組成物である特許請求の範囲第1項記載の着色セラミック。

3. セラミック組成物が、1000℃以下の温度で焼成が可能なコージェライト系組成物である特許請求の範囲第1項記載の着色セラミック。

4. セラミック組成物が、1000℃以下の温度で焼成が可能なβ-スピネル系組成物である特許請求の範囲第1項記載の着色セラミック。

3. 発明の詳細な説明

(産業上の利用分野)

本発明は半導体素子等を収容する電子部品パッケージ等に用いる着色セラミックに関する。

(背景技術)

半導体素子等を搭載するための電子部品パッケージとしてセラミックパッケージが用いられている。

このセラミックパッケージには、高絶縁性等を有し、かつ紫外線等を遮光する遮光性が要求されるものがある。

また、回路抵抗を減ずるべく、金、銀、銅等の導電性の良好な金属で回路配線パターンを形成するものにあっては、焼成時の加熱によってこれら回路配線パターンが損傷せぬように、1000℃以下の温度焼成が可能な低温焼成セラミックが用いられる。この低温焼成のセラミックは、セラミック組成物にガラスを含ませて焼成するが、ガラスは遮光性に劣る故、特に遮光性の確保が必要となる。

このため従来においては、セラミックに遮光性を与えるために、セラミック組成物に着色剤を添加して焼成し、着色セラミックを得ていた。

これら着色剤は、絶縁性を確保するために金属

(発明の概要)

本発明は上記目的を達成するため次の構成を備える。

すなわち、セラミック組成物に、酸化クロムと酸化鉄の混合物を仮焼して得た着色剤を添加して焼成して成ることを特徴としている。

本発明に係る着色セラミックに混入される着色剤は、酸化クロムと酸化鉄の混合物を仮焼して成る。

ここで仮焼とは、セラミック組成物に添加して焼成する本焼成に対する語であり、着色剤をあらかじめ加熱することをいう。

酸化クロムと酸化鉄の混合物の仮焼後の状態は定かでないが、ある種の安定な組成物になっていると考えられる。すなわち両者の間で何らかの化学反応を起す。そして重要なことは、仮焼により反応が完結するので、仮焼後、少なくともこの仮焼温度よりも低温の条件下では新たに反応することはなく安定している点である。

酸化クロムと酸化鉄の混合比は特に限定される

ものではないが、黒色のセラミックを得る上で、重量比で2:1~1:2の範囲が良好である。この重量比の範囲で、酸化クロムが多い程得られるセラミックは黒色を呈し、酸化鉄が多い程褐色味を帯びた黒色を呈する。

なおセラミック組成物は、ガラスーアルミナ複合系組成物からなり、1000℃以下の温度で焼成できる低温焼成用セラミックが好適である。

この場合において、着色剤が金属酸化物である故に焼成後のセラミックは高絶縁性が確保され、また黒色に着色されるので遮光性に優れる。

他の低温焼成用セラミックとしては、コーチェライト系組成物、あるいはタースポジュメン系組成物等を用いたものがある。

なお、低温焼成用セラミック以外にも、アルミニナセラミック等の高温焼成用セラミックにも同様に好適に用いることができる。

またセラミック焼成時において、着色剤は熱的に安定であって、加熱によってセラミック組成物等と反応することがなく、緻密で高品質の着色セ

ラミックを得ることができる。

なお、酸化クロムと酸化鉄の混合物の仮焼を空気中もしくは酸化性雰囲気中で行う。従ってこのような雰囲気中で酸化クロムと酸化鉄とが反応することになる。

一般にセラミック組成物の焼成は弱酸化性または窒素雰囲気等の中性雰囲気中で行われる。したがって、このセラミック組成物の焼成雰囲気に近い雰囲気で、しかもこの焼成温度よりは高温で酸化クロムと酸化鉄との混合物を仮焼しておくことで、セラミック組成物に仮焼後の着色剤を添加して焼成する際、仮焼された着色剤がそれ以上反応することがないのである。

なおセラミック組成物の焼成は窒素雰囲気中で行われることもあるが、窒素雰囲気中の焼成反応は空気中よりも緩やかであるので、酸化クロムと酸化鉄の混合物を言わばより苛酷な空気中で仮焼しておけば、着色剤を添加したセラミック組成物を窒素雰囲気中で焼成する場合においても、仮焼された着色剤は安定でそれ以上反応することが

ないのである。

以下には本発明についての実施例を示す。

(実施例)

実施例 1

粉末状の酸化クロム (Cr_2O_3) と酸化鉄 (Fe_2O_3) を重量比 1 : 1 に混合し、この混合粉末を、空気中、1200℃で約1時間仮焼して着色剤を得た。

この着色剤をホウケイ酸ガラス粉末とアルミナ粉末との混合粉末に有機バインダー等を混合してなる低温焼成用セラミック組成物に 0.5 ~ 10 重量パーセント (wt%) 添加し、850~1000℃の温度で焼成したところ黒色の緻密なセラミックを得た。

実施例 2

酸化クロムと酸化鉄を重量比 2 : 1 に混合し、この混合粉末を、空気中、1200℃で約1時間仮焼して着色剤を得た。

この着色剤を実施例 1 と同様のセラミック組成物に 0.5 ~ 10 wt% 添加し、850~1000℃の温度で焼成したところ黒色の緻密なセラミックを得た。

黒色度は実施例 1 よりも優れていた。

実施例 3

酸化クロムと酸化鉄を重量比 1 : 2 に混合し、この混合粉末を、空気中、1200℃で約1時間仮焼して着色剤を得た。

この着色剤を実施例 1 と同様のセラミック組成物に 0.5 ~ 10 wt% 添加し、850~1000℃の温度で焼成したところ黒色の緻密なセラミックを得た。

着色は実施例 1 よりもやや褐色がかった黒色となつた。

実施例 4

実施例 1 と同様に仮焼して得た着色剤をコージエライト系組成物に 0.5 ~ 10 wt% 添加して、850~1000℃の温度で焼成したところ黒色で緻密な組成のセラミックを得た。

実施例 5

実施例 1 と同様に仮焼して得た着色剤を β -ースボジュメン系組成物に 0.5 ~ 10 wt% 添加して、850~1000℃の温度で焼成したところ黒色で緻密な組成のセラミックを得た。

実施例 6

実施例 1 と同様に仮焼して得た着色剤をアルミナ粉末、有機バインダー等からなるアルミナセラミック組成物に 0.5 ~ 10 wt% 添加して約 1600℃で焼成したところ、やはり黒色で緻密な組成のアルミナセラミックを得た。

以上本発明につき好適な実施例を挙げて種々説明したが、本発明はこの実施例に限定されるものではなく、発明の精神を逸脱しない範囲内で多くの改変を施し得るのはもちろんのことである。

(発明の効果)

以上のように本発明によれば、黒色で遮光性に優れ、かつ緻密な組成の着色セラミックを得ることができる。

特にガラスをセラミック組成物の成分に含むセラミックに有効であり、遮光性に優れるので、電子部品パッケージ等に用いることができる。